

FULL STEAM AHEAD WITH THE CLOUD



**HAVE YOU EVER
LEASED A LOCOMOTIVE?**

Not for model railway enthusiast in the cellar or the attic but „for real“ on tracks throughout Europe? This is quite common with large railway companies. With the lease option, as a company they become more flexible. A leased locomotive will tie up less capital than an outright purchased rolling stock. There are no worries or concerns about maintenance, repair or logistical services. In this respect, the services of MRCE and ISGUS are quite similar.

Mitsui Rail Capital Europe (MRCE) in Munich uses the ZEUS® software for Time & Attendance as „Software as a Service“. The company is Europe’s market leader in locomotive leasing with a fleet of over 330 locomotives. If a rail transporter needs a locomotive at short notice to transport goods from Rotterdam to Genoa, the parent company MRCE in Amsterdam is the right company to contact. Long-term leasing over several years is not unusual. MRCE offers a full-service package, which - with the exception of the train crew - includes everything that ensures smooth locomotive operation.

„Fairer“ Time Recording

More than 100 employees at the subsidiary in Munich take care of technology, logistics, procurement and service. Here, Sofia Offergeld and Nirakar Makwana from the HR department also have their offices. Since November 2015, the electronic time recording system ZEUS® from ISGUS has simplified their workload. „Both employees and management agreed that software objectifies the time tracking and creates more equity and fairness,“ says Sofia Offergeld.

Since then, colleagues book when they come and go using tokens or fingerprints at one of the three terminals at the entrances. Everyone has access to their personal account via the network.

Complex working time models are not available at MRCE. The fixed salary includes Sunday and holiday supplements, overtime hours are paid or compensated by free time. What makes the solution so special: Both software and database are not operated on the computers on premise, but in the „ISGUS cloud“, externally via the Internet. And: the server is not „anywhere“, but in the ISGUS data centre in Villingen-Schwenningen.

Which clarifies the question of current case-law. „Software as a Service“ (SaaS) is the name of this service, which ISGUS offers in Germany as provider of electronic time recording in its own data center. „Our IT department chose ZEUS® from the very beginning, because the solution was the most modern and user-friendly of all competitors,“ recalls Sofia Offergeld. „And the support from Landsberg is great.“

Relieving the IT department

Why the choice fell on the SaaS model, explains Niraka Makwana: „Every company knows the growing IT effort. New equipment must be procured or old ones expanded. Operating systems and networking must be coordinated with each other, the database maintained and data security continuously monitored. Not to mention setting up a VPN network. We simply did not want to charge our IT department for time recording. Instead ISGUS relieves us of all this.“

In other words, MRCE does not have to worry about the technical, financial or human resources that would be required for in-house operation of IT equipment, maintenance and system administration. What only arises: a monthly fee. In short: less effort, low costs.

Also, the operation works smoothly - no matter where you are. „If a new colleague is hired, a new record is easily created - and get started with the booking,“ rejoices Sofia Offergeld. The other available ZEUS® modules, such as access control, workforce planning or production data collection, could also be easily activated in this way. If desired, even temporarily.

Christian Danziger accompanied the project as head of the ISGUS branch for Southwest Bavaria from Landsberg am Lech from the beginning. „MRCE is taking a progressive approach that more and more of our approximately 1,500 customers in South Bavaria are taking. We have been offering SaaS since 2014 - with 10 to 15 new users added every year, including customers who are moving from classic in-house to SaaS.“

The parent company in Amsterdam is also interested in being connected to the SaaS system.



Tested and put through paces

What about privacy and data security? For this, ISGUS has been put through its paces by the MRCE data protection experts - and passed with flying colors.

The two companies have also signed a General Data Protection Agreement, which according to Section 9 of the Federal Data Protection Act also includes the necessary technical and organizational measures.



Sofia Offergeld and Nirakar Makwana (from left), employees of the HR department at MRCE are very happy with the progress of the project. Personal service from ISGUS sales representative Christian Danziger, ISGUS-bavaria GmbH and Tanja Sailer, ISGUS GmbH.

